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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/891,584	06/26/2001	Lorin Evan Ullmann	AUS920010284-US1	2109

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IBM CORPORATION  
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EXAMINER

MARTIN, NICHOLAS A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 10/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/891,584

**Applicant(s)**

ULLMANN ET AL.

**Examiner**

Nicholas A. Martin

**Art Unit**

2154

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 6/26/01 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

1. Claims 1-21 are presented for examination.

### ***Drawings***

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show the information listed on page 7 and subsequently afterwards as "(not shown)" as described in the specification.

Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Specification***

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

The specification is not numbered. The lines should be numbered so that they can be referenced in accordance with related material.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-5, 10, 12-16 and 20-21 are rejected under U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kirk et al. (hereinafter Kirk), US 5,916,300.
5. As per claim 1, Kirk teaches a method for providing variable frequency logging of activities in a distributed computing system comprising:
- detecting an event trigger (Col. 3, lines 10-15);
  - responsive to the event trigger, activating a temporary logging function for logging system activities (Col. 4, lines 12-16; lines 62-65);
  - logging system activities (Col. 6, lines 34-38); and
  - terminating logging of system activities based on detections of a stop event (Col. 7, lines 51-59; Col.18, lines 1-15).

6. As per claim 2, Kirk teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said activating further comprises implementing filtering of said logging of system activities (Col. 4, lines 16-23; Col. 11, lines 58-64; Col. 12, lines 6-9).
7. As per claim 3, Kirk teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said event trigger comprises an error message (Col. 5, lines 54-57; Col. 12, lines 65-67; Col. 17, lines 64-67; Col. 18, lines 1-2).
8. As per claim 4, Kirk teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said activating comprises altering the amount of logging done for system activities (Col. 4, lines 37-45).
9. As per claim 5, Kirk teaches the method of claim 4 wherein said altering comprises adjusting the frequency at which logging is done on an affected subsystem at an affected location (Col. 4, lines 37-45; Col. 6, lines 49-51; Col. 7, lines 8-10).
10. As per claim 10, Kirk teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising the step of accessing at least one configuration database for predefined temporary logging information (Col. 6, lines 40-48).
11. As per claim 12, Kirk teaches an apparatus for providing variable frequency logging of activities in a distributed computing system comprising:
  - an event trigger detection component for detecting at least one predefined trigger event (Col. 3, lines 10-15, lines 52-59);
  - a plurality of logging components for logging system activities at a system location (Col. 4, lines 7-11, Col. 6, lines 16-19, lines 34-38);

a logging activator responsive to input from the event trigger detection component, for activating at least one of said plurality of logging components to log system activities (Col. 3, lines 10-15, lines 52-59; Col. 4, lines 30-32); and

a stop event detection component for terminating logging of system activities based on detection of a stop event (Col.7, lines 51-59; Col. 18, lines 1-15).

12. As per claim 13, Kirk teaches an apparatus of claim 12 wherein said event trigger detection component comprises a component for monitoring error messages in said system (Col. 5, lines 54-57; Col. 12, lines 65-67).

13. As per claim 14, Kirk teaches an apparatus of claim 12 wherein said stop event detection component comprises a timer for terminating logging after a preset time period (Col. 17, lines 55-67; Col. 18, lines 1-15).

14. As per claim 15, Kirk teaches an apparatus of claim 12 wherein said stop event detection component comprises a component for receiving user input of stop notification (Col. 4, lines 30-37; Col. 7, lines 51-59; Col.18, lines 8-15).

15. As per claim 16, Kirk teaches an apparatus of claim 12 further comprising a mapping component for determining the location from which the trigger event emanated (Col. 3, lines 34-38).

16. As per claim 20, Kirk teaches an apparatus of claim 12 wherein said logging activator comprises means to alter the frequency at which the logging of system activities is done (Col. 4, lines 37-45; Col. 6, lines 49-51; Col. 7, lines 8-10).

17. As per claim 21, Kirk teaches a program storage device readable by machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a

method for providing variable frequency logging of activities in a distributed computing system, said method comprising:

detecting an event trigger (Col. 3, lines 10-15);  
responsive to the event trigger, activating a temporary logging function for logging system activities (Col. 4, lines 12-16; lines 62-65);  
logging system activities (Col. 6, lines 34-38); and  
terminating logging of system activities based on detections of a stop event (Col. 7, lines 51-59; Col. 18, lines 8-15).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

18. Claims 6-9, 11 and 17-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kirk et al. (hereinafter Kirk) US 5,916,300, in view of Duggan et al. (hereinafter Duggan) US 6,002,871.

19. As per claim 6, Kirk does not explicitly teach the method of claim 1 wherein said activating comprises starting logging at an affected subsystem.

20. Duggan teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said activating comprises starting logging at an affected subsystem (Col. 8, lines 55-62; Col. 24, lines 10-27).

21. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention was made to combine the teaching of Kirk and Duggan because they both deal with logging of activities in a distributed computing system. Furthermore, the teaching of Duggan wherein said activating comprises starting logging at an affected subsystem would improve Kirk's logging system by increasing detail in reference to each logging event and subsystem within the network.

22. Claims 7-8 do not teach or define any new limitations above claim 6 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

23. As per claim 9, Kirk does not teach the method of claim 1 further comprising determining what subsystems have been affected by said event and wherein said activating comprises starting logging at all affected subsystems.

24. Duggan teaches a method comprising determining what subsystems have been affected by said event and wherein said activating comprises starting logging at all affected subsystems (Col. 8, lines 55-62; Col. 24, lines 10-27).

25. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention was made to combine the teaching of Kirk and Duggan because they both deal with logging of activities in a distributed computing system. Furthermore, the teaching of Duggan wherein determining what subsystems have been affected by said event and wherein said activating comprises starting logging at all affected subsystems would improve Kirk's logging system by increasing the ease as to which the logging activities and filtering are adjusted for a computing system.



26. As per claim 11, Kirk does not explicitly teach the method of claim 7 further comprising the step of accessing at least one configuration database to obtain predefined temporary logging information for said subsystem.

27. Kirk teaches a method of claim 7 comprising the step of obtaining predefined temporary logging information (Col. 6, lines 40-48).

28. Duggan teaches the method of claim 7 further comprising the step of accessing at least one configuration database to obtain predefined temporary logging information for said subsystem (Col. 15, lines 40-49).

29. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention was made to combine the teaching of Kirk and Duggan because they both deal with logging of activities in a distributed computing system and accessing predetermined logging information. Furthermore, the teaching of Duggan wherein accessing at least one configuration database to obtain predefined temporary logging information would improve functionality for Kirk's logging system by allocating centralized locations for standard logging information to be accessed.

30. As per claim 17, Kirk does not explicitly teach the method of claim 16 wherein said mapping component is further adapted to determine the subsystem at which the trigger event occurred.

31. Duggan teaches an apparatus of a mapping component adapted to determine the subsystem at which the trigger event occurred (Col. 8, lines 55-62).

32. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention was made to combine the teaching of Kirk and Duggan because they both deal with logging of activities in a distributed computing system based on a triggered event.

Furthermore, the teaching of Duggan wherein a mapping component is further adapted to determine the subsystem at which the trigger event occurred would improve functionality for Kirk's logging system by identifying which systems were effected by the event and to act accordingly by adjusting logging activities.

33. Claim 18 does not teach or define any new limitations above claim 17 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

34. As per claim 19, Kirk does not explicitly teach the apparatus of claim 17 wherein said logging activator activates logging at each of said at least one additional subsystem.

35. Duggan teaches an apparatus wherein said logging activator activates logging at each of said at least one additional subsystem (Col. 8, lines 55-62; Col. 24, lines 10-27).

36. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in this art at the time of invention was made to combine the teaching of Kirk and Duggan because they both deal with logging of activities in a distributed computing system. Furthermore, the teaching of Duggan wherein a logging activator activates logging at each of said at least one additionally subsystem would improve Kirk's logging system by increasing the ease as to which the logging activities and filtering are adjusted for a computing system.

***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to "Method And Apparatus For Dynamic Configurable Logging Of Activities In A Distributed Computing System".

- |      |  |                     |
|------|--|---------------------|
| i.   | US 5,974,573   | Martin, Todd R.     |
| ii.  | US 5,903,759   | Sun et al.          |
| iii. | "Adaptive Message Logging for Incremental<br>Message-Passing Programs" | Netzer, Robert H.B. |

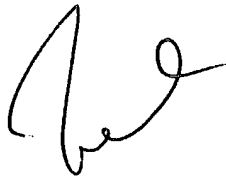
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas A. Martin whose telephone number is (703) 605-4352. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2154

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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October 4, 2004



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